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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Toyoshima)	Art Unit: 2687
)	
Serial No.: 09/972,183)	Examiner: Torres
)	
Filed: October 5, 2001)	50P4257.05
)	
For: WIRELESS MODULE SECURITY SYSTEM AND)	May 9, 2006
METHOD)	750 B STREET, Suite 3120
)	San Diego, CA 92101
)	

SUPPLEMENTAL APPEAL BRIEF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Dear Sir:

This brief responds to the attempt to reopen prosecution of unknown date, faxed to Appellant on May 2, 2006. The appeal is reinstated.

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****CASE NO.: 50P4257.05
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Filed: October 5, 2001****(1) Real Party in Interest**

The real parties in interest are Sony Corp. and Sony Electronics, Inc.

(2) Related Appeals/Interferences

Appeals have been filed in related application serial nos. 09/972,781 and 09/974,724.

(3) Status of Claims

Claims 26 and 27 are pending and twice rejected, which rejections are subject of this appeal, and claims 1-25 and 28 are canceled.

(4) Status of Amendments

No amendments are outstanding.

(5) Concise Explanation of Subject Matter in Each Independent Claim, with Page and Figure Nos.

As an initial matter, it is noted that according to the Patent Office, the concise explanations under this section are for Board convenience, and do not supersede what the claims actually state, 69 Fed. Reg. 155 (August 2004), see page 49976. Accordingly, nothing in this Section should be construed as an estoppel that limits the actual claim language.

Claim 26 recites a system for rendering difficult the use of a wireless module (reference numeral 100, figure 1, page 4, line 12) with an unauthorized peripheral device (150, id., line 18) which includes the wireless module. The wireless module includes a wireless transceiver (20, figure 1, page 4, line 13) and a

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security code (figure 2, page 5, lines 13-20. The peripheral device, which has an input device and a display, communicates with the wireless module only if a human user provides the security code to the peripheral device and the security code provided to the peripheral device matches the security code provided to the wireless module (figure 3, page 5, lines 22-30). The peripheral device is a portable computing device and the wireless module is removably engageable with the peripheral device. A server is used to deactivate the wireless module in the event that the wireless module is lost and/or stolen, page 7, lines 13-21.

The references above are incorporated herein. Claim 27 sets forth a method for ensuring that a wireless module can communicate only with authorized peripheral devices having input devices and displays, supra. The method includes storing a security code in the wireless module, supra, and removably engaging the wireless module with a peripheral device, supra. The security code is provided to the peripheral device, supra, with the method including permitting the peripheral device to access data on the wireless module only if it is determined that the security code provided to the peripheral device matches the security code provided to the wireless module, supra. The wireless module is deactivated using a server in the event that the wireless module is lost and/or stolen, supra.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

Claims 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Kawashima, USPN 6,804,730 in view of Pettersson, USPN 6,615,057, and Helle, USPN 6,662,023.

(7) Argument

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As an initial matter, it is noted that according to the Patent Office, a new ground of rejection in an examiner's answer should be "rare", and should be levied only in response to such things as newly presented arguments by Applicant or to address a claim that the examiner previously failed to address, 69 Fed. Reg. 155 (August 2004), see, e.g., pages 49963 and 49980. Furthermore, a new ground of rejection must be approved by the Technology Center Director or designee and in any case must come accompanied with the initials of the conferees of the appeal conference, *id.*, page 49979.

Contrary to what is alleged in the Office Action, the relied-upon portion of Helle (col. 3, lines 43-55) does not deactivate anything, much less using a server. As to the first point, observe that even in the "secure" mode, the phone can call out to one other number and to emergency numbers, col. 3, lines 44 and 45. Plainly, the phone thus remains active, if of limited use. As to the second point, observe that nowhere does Helle teach using a server to place the phone in a secure mode. Instead, "the owner" does so, col. 4, line 6. "Owners" are not "servers". Presumably, the human being who places the phone in the secure mode does so by using another phone to dial the first phone's number. A phone is not a "server", see MPEP §2111.01 (claims must be construed as one of skill in the art would construe them).

Additionally, Claims 26 and 27 do not merely recite "deactivating" something in a vacuum. They explicitly require deactivating the wireless module that is used with the peripheral device. Helle, in contrast, merely places a phone in a secure mode without giving any hint whatsoever about doing something to a wireless module that might be associated with a computer, much less does Helle motivate the specific action related to the wireless module that is now recited in the claims.

Furthermore, there is no suggestion to combine the references as proposed. Simply because a reference can be modified is insufficient, see MPEP §2143.01 (citing *In re Mills*), unless the references

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explain why the modification is desirable. There is nothing in Helle to suggest it may be useful for the PCMCIA card of the primary reference (Kawashima), nor is there any suggestion in the primary reference that its PCMCIA card even be wireless. That the secondary reference (Pettersson) teaches a wireless transmitter for conveying subscriber information is of no help to the *prima facie* case, because passing wireless subscriber information is irrelevant to Kawashima. Indeed, nothing in the relied-upon portions of Pettersson motivates one to provide security to the wireless transmitter at all, much less to a wireless module of the kind explicitly recited in the claims.

In addition, the proffered suggestion to combine Pettersson with Kawashima ("for the simple purpose of enabling a secure wireless transfer") falls short of the requisite *prior art* suggestion to combine, for the simple reason that Kawashima admittedly lacks wireless and Pettersson is directed to passing subscriber information in a wireless telephony system, an area not remotely connected to Kawashima's authentication of users of flash memories. Thus, not only is there no suggestion in Pettersson to use its principles for authenticating users of flash memories, but the proffered suggestion to combine appears to apply to neither reference.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A - APPEALED CLAIMS

26. A system for rendering difficult the use of a wireless module with an unauthorized peripheral device, comprising:

at least one wireless module including a wireless transceiver, the wireless module including at least one security code;

at least one peripheral device having an input device and a display and communicating with the wireless module only if a human user provides the security code to the peripheral device and the security code provided to the peripheral device matches the security code provided to the wireless module, the peripheral device being a portable computing device, the wireless module being removably engageable with the peripheral device; and

using a server to deactivate the wireless module in the event that the wireless module is lost and/or stolen.

27. A method for ensuring that a wireless module can communicate only with authorized peripheral devices having input devices and displays, comprising:

storing a security code in the wireless module;

removably engaging the wireless module with a peripheral device;

providing the security code to the peripheral device;

permitting the peripheral device to access data on the wireless module only if it is determined that the security code provided to the peripheral device matches the security code provided to the wireless module; and

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deactivating the wireless module using a server in the event that the wireless module is lost
and/or stolen.

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APPENDIX B - EVIDENCE

None (this sheet made necessary by 69 Fed. Reg. 155 (August 2004), page 49978.)

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APPENDIX C - RELATED PROCEEDINGS

None (this sheet made necessary by 69 Fed. Reg. 155 (August 2004), page 49978.)

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